

ALASKA TRIBAL-STATE FORUM ON SAFETY AND JUSTICE

***Yukon-Kuskokwim Region
November 5-6, 2007
Bethel, Alaska***

REPORT



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Sponsored by the Alaska Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

In partnership with the Alaska State Troopers, Alaska Department of Law, Alaska Court System, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault and the Alaska Native Justice Center.

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Tribal-State Forum on Safety and Justice Agenda
Yupit Piciryarait Cultural Center
Bethel, Alaska
November 5 -6, 2007

MONDAY

8:00-8:30 *Registration*

8:30-9:00 *Welcome, Announcements and Introductions*

9:00-9:40 **Domestic Violence Overview**

Winnie Kelly-Green, Traditional Counselor/Case Manager, YKHC Behavioral Health

Break (5 minutes)

9:45 -10:30 **Historical Trauma and Domestic Violence**

Elizabeth (Cookie) Rose, Community Coordinator, Kauffman & Associates

Break (15 minutes)

10:45-11:20 **Domestic Violence: The Role of Law Enforcement and Mandatory Arrest**

Katie TePas, Program Coordinator, Alaska State Troopers

Break (5 minutes)

11:25 -12:15 **Civil Legal Remedies: Protective Orders, Divorce and Child Custody**

Kari Robinson, Director, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Legal Advocacy Project

12:15-1:15 *Lunch Discussion Groups –Justice in Community, Prevention, What About the Kids?*

1:15-2:05 **Legal Advocacy and Mandated Reporting**

Kari Robinson and Andrea Browning, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Legal Advocacy Project

Break (10 minutes)

2:15-3:00 **Practical Skills For Victim Advocacy and Safety Planning**

Patti Bland, Director of Training, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault and Christine King, Project Coordinator Center for Human Development, UAA

Break (10 minutes)

3:10-4:00 **Advocacy and Safety Planning (continued)**

Break (10 minutes)

4:10-5:00 **Advocacy for Survivors with Substance Use Issues**

Patti Bland, Director of Training, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

TUESDAY

8:15-8:30 *Registration*

8:30-9:20 **State Domestic Violence Laws and Prosecutorial Decision-Making - Plead, Dismiss or Trial**

Lance Joanis, Bethel District Attorney

Break (10 minutes)

9:30-10:20 **Victims' Rights and Victim/Witness Paralegals**

Blanche Jacobs and Martha Tikiun, Victim/Witness Paralegals, Bethel District Attorney's Office

Break (10 minutes)

10:30- 11:20 **The Role of the Courts in Protection Orders and Sentencing**

Honorable Natalie Finn, Retired, Alaska Court System

Break (10 minutes)

11:30-12:15 **Alaska Native Justice and Domestic Violence**

Cheryl Facine, Legal Advocate and Mary Elam, Advocate Coordinator, Alaska Native Justice Center

12:15-1:15 *Lunch Discussion Groups –Justice in Community, Prevention, What About the Kids?*

1:15 – 2:00 **Tribal Jurisdictions and Tribal Courts**

Cheryl Facine, Legal Advocate and Mary Elam, Advocate Coordinator, Alaska Native Justice Center

Break (10 minutes)

2:10 -2:55 **Tribal Jurisdictions and Tribal Courts (continued)**

Break (10 minutes)

3:05-3:45 **Elders Speak Out**

Esther Green, Elder

Break (5 minutes)

3:50-4:30 **Prevention Strategies**

Michelle DeWitt, Executive Director, Tundra Women's Coalition

4:30 -4:45 **Evaluations**

4:45-5:15 **Closing Ceremony**

Ayaprun Elitnaruvik Yu'pik Immersion School Dancers

Participants



Tribal and State service providers, tribal government representatives, Alaska State Troopers and village law enforcement officers from Bethel and many Y-K region villages listen and learn. Yu'pik Elder Esther Green brings the group to its feet and raises spirits after a long day of training.

Participants

Seventy-two (72) participants attended the two-day training held at the Yupiit Piciryarait Cultural Center in Bethel. Thirty-two (32) of the participants live in Bethel. Forty (40) of the trainees traveled to Bethel from twenty-four (24) regional villages.

Akiachak (2)	Mountain Village (1)
Akiak (1)	Napakiak (2)
Alakanuk (7)	Napaskiak (1)
Atmautlauk (2)	Newtok (1)
Bethel (32)	Nunapitchuk (1)
Chefornak (1)	Quinhagak (1)
Chevak (2)	Russian Mission (1)
Eek (1)	Scammon Bay (1)
Emmonak (2)	St. Mary's (2)
Goodnews Bay (1)	Toksook Bay (2)
Kipnuk (1)	Tuluksak (1)
Kongiganak (4)	Tununak (1)
Mekoryuk (1)	

Participants included:

Attorney (1)

Court personnel (4)

Corrections personnel (1)

Government agency staff (3)

Law enforcement officers (20)

Legal Services staff (1)

Mental health professionals (2)

Tribal government/Tribal government agency staff (25)

Victim advocates (11)

Volunteers (2)

Other (2): Head Start personnel

Presentations



Winnie Kelly-Green (left), Traditional Counselor and Case Manager at YKHC Behavioral Health introduces the participants to the dynamics of power and control that underlie domestic violence. Joe Green (right), Community Outreach and Activities Coordinator for the Tundra Women's Coalition shares his own experiences, growing up in a violent home, with drugs and alcohol and with recovery.



Patti Bland ,ANDVSA Training Director, teaches practical skills for victim advocacy and safety planning



Attorneys Kari Robinson, Director of ANDVSA's Legal Advocacy Project (left) and Mark Regan, Director of Alaska Legal Services in Bethel discuss civil legal remedies for victims.



Katie TePas (right) Program Coordinator for the Alaska State Troopers answers questions Village Public Safety Officers (left) have about enforcement response to domestic violence.



Bethel District Attorney, Lance Joanis (left) and Victim –Witness Paralegals, Blanche Jacobs, Martha Tikiun, (below, right) answer questions about what happens after a domestic violence case is referred for prosecution under State criminal law.



The Honorable Natalie Finn, retired State District Court Judge and Tribal Court Judges from Yukon-Kuskokwim villages share State and Tribal judicial responses to perpetrators of domestic violence and to petitions for orders of protection.



Mary Elam (left) and Cheryl Facine of the Alaska Native Justice Center provide information about how the Justice Center can help local tribes develop a tribal response to domestic violence.



Translator Annie Wassillie helps Yu'pik elders share their perspective and wisdom with the other participants.



Alaska Village Council Presidents' Village Public Safety Officer Program Coordinator, Alvin Jimmie (left), explains the process for getting a VPSO posted in a village. Bethel Diversity Panel reports on community wellness efforts.



Tundra Women's Coalition, Executive Director, Michelle DeWitt shares TWC prevention strategies, including a video made by local teens on dating violence and introduces three young people reading their hopes for the future – "When I am older I want to see the cycles of the salmon not the cycles of violence I want to *hear* less cussing I want to *feel* loved by my parents . . . dance fans in my handthe absence of hate"



Ayaprun Elitnaruvik Yu'pik Immersion School Dancers perform a closing ceremony for the 2007 Tribal-State Forum on Safety and Justice for Victims of Domestic Violence.

Faculty and Staff

Sixteen (16) faculty and staff participated in or presented at the forum.

Patricia Bland, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Director of Training

Andrea Browning, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Legal Advocacy Project Coordinator

Michelle DeWitt, Tundra Women's Coalition, Executive Director

Mary Elam, Alaska Native Justice Center, Advocate Coordinator

Cheryl Facine, Alaska Native Justice Center, Legal Advocate

Honorable Natalie Finn, Alaska Court System, District Court Judge (Retired)

Sherrie Goll, Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Project Coordinator

Esther Green, Yu'pik Elder

Jo Griggs, Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Business Manager

Blanche Jacobs, Bethel District Attorney's Office, Victim-Witness Paralegal

Lance Joanis, Alaska Department of Law, Bethel District Attorney

Winnie Kelly-Green, Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation, Traditional Counselor/Case Manager

Christine King, University of Alaska, Center for Human Development, Project Coordinator

Kari Robinson Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Legal Advocacy Project Director

Elizabeth (Cookie) Rose, Kauffman & Associates, Community Coordinator

Cathy Satterfield, Department of Law, Statewide Victim-Witness Program Coordinator

Katie TePas, Alaska State Troopers, Program Coordinator

Martha Tikiun, Bethel District Attorney's Office, Victim-Witness Paralegal

Training Content Areas

Domestic Violence and Victim Advocacy

Advocate response
Confidentiality and legal advocacy
Domestic violence overview, dynamics, services
Historical Trauma and Domestic Violence
Mandatory reporting requirements
Safety planning for victims/survivors
Sexual assault overview
Stalking overview

Justice System

Civil court procedures
Criminal court procedures
Decreasing dual arrests/ID of primary aggressor
Domestic violence statutes and codes
Law enforcement response
Judicial Response
Pro-arrest policies
Prosecution response
Protection orders (including full faith and credit)
Sexual assault statutes and codes
Stalking statutes and codes
Tribal jurisdiction and PL 280
Victims' Rights

Community Response

Prevention Strategies

Underserved Populations

Issues specific to victims/survivors who:

- live in rural areas
- are Alaska Natives
- have substance abuse or mental health problems
- are elderly or have a disability